United Nations A/62/L.9

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 12
Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Egypt, Iceland, Mongolia, Oman, Panama, Qatar, Romania, Turkey and Uruguay: draft resolution

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/30 of 7 December 1994, 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998, 54/36 of 29 November 1999, 55/43 of 27 November 2000, 56/96 of 14 November 2001, 56/269 of 27 March 2002, 58/13 of 17 November 2003, 58/281 of 9 February 2004, 60/253 of 2 May 2006 and 61/226 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[1] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24 thereof, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling further the declarations and plans of action of the six international conferences of new or restored democracies adopted in Manila in 1988, Managua in 1994, Bucharest in 1997, Cotonou in 2000, Ulaanbaatar in 2003 and Doha in 2006,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Stressing that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] See resolution 60/1.

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Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Reaffirming also that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirming further the necessity of due respect for sovereignty, the right to self-determination and territorial integrity,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Mindful of the central role of parliaments and the active involvement of civil society organizations and media and their interaction with Governments at all levels in promoting democracy, freedom, equality, participation, development, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, and welcoming in this regard the expanded tripartite participation in the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, hosted by the Government of Qatar in Doha from 29 October to 1 November 2006, which focused on capacity-building, democracy and social progress,

Noting the role of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in support of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies movement,

Recognizing the work carried out by the Chair and the Advisory Board of the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, particularly the efforts of the Chair to achieve systematic implementation of Conference recommendations in accordance with the Doha Declaration adopted at the Sixth Conference,[3]

Noting that the year 2008 marks the twentieth anniversary of the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies held in Manila from 3 to 6 June 1988,

Convinced of the need to continue to encourage and promote democratization, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the importance of action-oriented follow-up to the Sixth Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General and the suggestions contained therein;[4]

2. *Also takes note* of the outcomes of the first and second meetings of the Advisory Board of the Sixth Conference, particularly the formulation of a Conference programme of work for 2007-2009, and welcomes the proposal to designate an International Day of Democracy;

3. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen national programmes devoted to the promotion and consolidation of democracy, including through increased

[3] A/61/581, annex.

[4] A/62/296.

bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices;

4. *Encourages* regional and other intergovernmental organizations to share their experiences in the field of democracy promotion with each other and with the United Nations system where appropriate, and to actively participate in future meetings and activities of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

5. *Recognizes* that the commemoration in 2008 of the twentieth anniversary of the First Conference offers a special opportunity to focus attention on the promotion and consolidation of democracy at all levels and reinforce international cooperation in this regard;

6. *Decides*, with effect from its sixty-second session, to observe on 15 September of each year the International Day of Democracy, which should be brought to the attention of all people for its celebration and observance;

7. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals to commemorate the International Day of Democracy in an appropriate manner that contributes to raising public awareness;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue to ensure that parliamentarians and civil society organizations are given appropriate opportunity to be involved in, and to contribute to, the celebration of the International Day of Democracy;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to recommend ways and means by which the United Nations system and the United Nations Secretariat could, within existing resources, assist Member States, upon request, in organizing activities to commemorate the International Day of Democracy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take necessary measures, within existing resources, for the observance by the United Nations of the International Day of Democracy;

11. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States by providing adequate support for their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization, including through the activities of the Democracy Fund at the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 12
Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Egypt, Iceland, Mongolia, Oman, Panama, Qatar, Romania, Turkey and Uruguay: draft resolution

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and **Yemen**

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 64 (a)
New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

Pakistan:* draft resolution

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and resolutions 58/233 of 23 December 2003, 59/254 of 23 December 2004, 60/222 of 23 December 2005 and 61/229 of 22 December 2006 entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1] including the recognition of the need to meet the special needs of Africa and also recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[2]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

07-57821 (E) 051107

Stressing the need to fully deliver on all commitments by the international community regarding the economic and social development of Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the fifth consolidated report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[4]

3. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* the resolve to provide assistance for prevention and care, with the aim of ensuring an AIDS-, malaria- and tuberculosis-free Africa, and of achieving as closely as possible the goal of universal access by 2010 to HIV/AIDS treatment in African countries, to encourage pharmaceutical companies to make drugs, including antiretroviral drugs, that are affordable and accessible in Africa and to ensure increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

5. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on 27 June 2001,[5] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the Assembly on 2 June 2006;[6]

I
Actions by African countries and organizations

6. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to involving the private sector, including small and medium-size firms, in the New Partnership implementation process and to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

7. *Also welcomes* the commendable progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in a number of countries, further welcomes the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews, and in this regard invites African States that have not done so to consider joining the Mechanism process and to enhance its effectiveness;

8. *Further welcomes and appreciates* the continuing and increasing efforts of African countries to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

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[3] A/62/203.
[4] A/57/304, annex.
[5] Resolution S-26/2, annex.
[6] Resolution 60/262, annex.

9. *Stresses* that conflict prevention, management and resolution and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes in this regard the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

10. *Recognizes* the need for African countries to continue to coordinate, in accordance with their respective national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development processes;

11. *Encourages* African countries to accelerate the achievement of the objective of food security in Africa and in this regard reaffirms its support for the outcome of post-Abuja meeting of the Food Security Summit, held in Ethiopia in May 2007;

12. *Recognizes also* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the necessary support to strengthen their capacity;

13. *Supports* the ongoing efforts by the African Union to improve the coordination between the New Partnership secretariat, the African Union Commission, the regional economic communities and African States;

14. *Encourages* the establishment of national institutional mechanisms for further domestication and integration of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership in national policies and programmes;

15. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development;

16. *Encourages* African countries to further enhance public awareness and commitment to the New Partnership and its programmes through, inter alia, effective and comprehensive communication and outreach strategies;

II
Response of the international community

17. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

18. *Also welcomes* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, and emphasizes the need for their effective implementation;

19. *Welcomes and supports* the implementation of the Declaration on the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership, concluded during the second Asian-African Summit in Bandung, Indonesia, on 24 April 2005 in conjunction with the commemoration of the golden jubilee of the Asian-African Conference of 1955 aimed at promoting and strengthening a comprehensive and cooperative relationship between Asia and Africa in the political, economic and socio-cultural spheres;

20. *Recognizes* the important role that South-South cooperation can play in supporting Africa's development efforts, including implementation of the New Partnership;

21. *Urges* continued support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology;

22. *Recognizes* that Africa, which contributes the least to climate change, is one of the most vulnerable and exposed regions to its adverse impact, and in this regard calls upon the international community, in particular developed countries, to support Africa in its adaptation efforts through, inter alia, the transfer of technologies, capacity-building and the provision of adequate and predictable resources;

23. *Reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the international trading system through initiatives such as building Africa's capacity to compete and the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

24. *Calls for* a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including cancellation or restructuring for heavily indebted African countries not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative that have unsustainable debt burdens, and emphasizes the importance of debt sustainability;

25. *Notes with concern* the continuing decline of flows of official development assistance to Africa in spite of the recent pledges by the Group of Eight countries to double by 2010 official development assistance to Africa, and in this regard calls upon the international community, particularly the Group of Eight, to honour their commitments, and further urges donors to continue to improve the quality of aid in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability, adopted at the High-level Forum on the question of "Joint Progress towards Enhanced Aid Effectiveness: Harmonization, Alignment, Results", held in Paris from 28 February to 2 March 2005, and to ensure that the increase in official development assistance translates into the actual flow of financial resources to developing countries;

26. *Recognizes* the need for the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

27. *Invites* developed countries to promote investment by their private sectors in Africa, to help African countries attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting domestic and foreign investment, such as encouraging private financial flows and promoting and maintaining macroeconomic stability, to encourage and facilitate the transfer of the technology needed to African countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and to assist in strengthening human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership, consistent with its priorities and objectives and with a view to furthering Africa's development at all levels;

28. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the New Partnership secretariat and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership and to place greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of the effectiveness of its activities in support of the New Partnerships;

29. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the United Nations development system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives through, inter alia, the Millennium Villages Project, and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report an assessment of those quick-impact initiatives;

30. *Reaffirms* its decision to hold within existing resources a high-level meeting on "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward" during its sixty-third session;

31. *Stresses* the need for close consultation between the United Nations, the African Union, and regional and other subregional organizations in preparing for the high-level meeting;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

33. *Reiterates* the call upon the United Nations system to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities;

34. R*equests* the Secretary-General to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in order to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate, including monitoring and reporting on progress related to meeting the special needs of Africa;

35. *Expresses concern* that the post of the Special Adviser on Africa continues to be vacant and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to appoint, as soon as possible, a Special Adviser on Africa, in accordance with its resolution 57/7;

36. R*equests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership.

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Sixty-second session
Agenda items 48 and 116

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Overview of United Nations activities relating to climate change

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 51 and 55 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling also the views expressed by Member States during the general debate of the General Assembly at its sixty-second session under the general theme "Responding to climate change", the Secretary-General's High-level Event on climate change on 24 September 2007 and the informal thematic debate at its sixty-first session on "Climate change as a global challenge",

Requests the Secretary-General, in this context, to submit, by 25 January 2008, a comprehensive report providing an overview of the activities of the United Nations system in relation to climate change.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda items 48, 54 and 116

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Sustainable development

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Revised draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Overview of United Nations activities relating to climate change

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling also the views expressed by Member States during the general debate of the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the suggested thematic issue "Responding to climate change", the Secretary-General's High-level Event on climate change on 24 September 2007 and the informal thematic debate at its sixty-first session on "Climate change as a global challenge",

Requests the Secretary-General, in this context, to submit, by 25 January 2008, a comprehensive report providing an overview of the activities of the United Nations system in relation to climate change.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 71 (d)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Japan, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine: draft resolution

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997, 54/97 of 8 December 1999, 56/109 of 14 December 2001, 58/119 of 17 December 2003 and 60/14 of 14 November 2005, as well as its resolution 55/171 of 14 December 2000 on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

07-59488 (E) 131107

Expressing profound concern at the ongoing effects of the consequences of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other affected countries,

Noting the consensus reached among members of the Chernobyl Forum[1] on the environmental, health and socio-economic effects of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular, its message of reassurance and practical advice to communities living in territories affected by Chernobyl,

Acknowledging the importance of the national efforts being undertaken by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Recognizing the contribution of civil society organizations, including the national Red Cross Societies of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in response to the Chernobyl disaster and in support of the efforts of the affected countries,

Welcoming with appreciation the developmental approach to tackling the problems caused by the Chernobyl disaster aimed at normalizing the situation of the individuals and communities concerned in the medium and long term,[2]

Stressing the exceptional Chernobyl-related needs, in particular in the areas of health, environment and research, in the context of the transition from the emergency to the recovery phase of mitigation of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting the completion in 2006 of the transfer of responsibility from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to the United Nations Development Programme for the coordination of Chernobyl efforts,

Stressing the need for further coordination by the United Nations Development Programme and improved resource mobilization by the United Nations system to support activities aimed at the recovery of Chernobyl-affected territories, inter alia, community-based development projects, the promotion of investment and the creation of new jobs and small businesses, advocacy work and the provision of relevant policy advice on request and the widest possible dissemination of the findings of the Chernobyl Forum through the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 60/14,[3] as well as relevant parts of the reports of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system,

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[1] The members of the Chernobyl Forum are drawn from the following organizations and bodies within the United Nations system: International Atomic Energy Agency, United Nations Development Programme, World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and World Bank, as well as representatives of the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

[2] See the United Nations report entitled "The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident: A Strategy for Recovery".

[3] A/62/467.

1. *Welcomes* the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, the activities of regional and other organizations and those of non-governmental organizations, as well as bilateral activities;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations members of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue implementing a developmental approach to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular through the development of specific projects, and stresses the need for the Inter-Agency Task Force to continue its activities to that end, including through coordinating efforts in the field of resource mobilization;

3. *Acknowledges* the difficulties faced by the most affected countries in minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and invites States, in particular donor States and all relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, including through the allocation of adequate funds to support medical, social, economic and environmental programmes related to the disaster;

4. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations should continue to play an important catalytic and coordinating role in the strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, in his capacity as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and as Chairperson of the United Nations Development Group, to continue to take appropriate practical measures to strengthen coordination of the international efforts in that area;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ukraine and the international donor community to complete construction of the shelter facility and related nuclear safety projects at Chernobyl, in accordance with international standards, so as to transform the site into a stable and environmentally safe state, recognizes and welcomes the recent contract signatures under the Shelter Implementation Plan as important milestones, and urges all parties to ensure that a strong, long-standing, high-level commitment remains in place to ensure the successful completion of this vital work;

7. *Also welcomes* the recent appointment as a United Nations Development Programme Goodwill Ambassador of star tennis player Maria Sharapova, who will serve as an advocate for post-Chernobyl recovery efforts, and praises her personal commitment in supporting a number of recovery projects that aid local communities in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the realization of the Cooperation for Rehabilitation Programme in Belarus and the Chernobyl Recovery and Development Programme in Ukraine, aimed at promoting better living conditions in and the sustainable development of the affected territories;

9. *Also notes with satisfaction* assistance rendered by the International Atomic Energy Agency to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on remediation of agricultural and urban environments, cost-effective agricultural countermeasures and the monitoring of human exposure in areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

10. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress made by the Governments of the affected countries in implementing national strategies to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and calls upon United Nations agencies and multilateral and bilateral donors to continue to align their assistance with the priorities of the national strategies of the affected States, and stresses the importance of working together on their implementation in a common effort in the spirit of cooperation;

11. *Notes* the necessity of further measures to ensure the integration of the assessment by the Chernobyl Forum of the environmental, health and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident into the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network process through dissemination of the findings of the Forum, including by providing accurate information on the impact of radiation in accessible, non-technical language in the form of practical messages on healthy and productive lifestyles, to the populations affected by the accident in order to empower them to maximize social and economic recovery and sustainable development in all its aspects;

12. *Proclaims* the third decade after the Chernobyl disaster (2006-2016) as the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, to be focused on achieving the goal of a return to normal life for the affected communities as far as is possible within this time frame;

13. *Welcomes* in this regard the proposal by the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate the drafting of a United Nations action plan for Chernobyl recovery to 2016 in order to implement the Decade, in support of national strategies of the affected countries, with the aim of maximizing limited resources, avoiding duplication of effort and building on recognized agency mandates and competencies, and requests the United Nations Development Programme to present a draft plan for review by the Chernobyl Inter-Agency Task Force by 26 April 2008, the twenty-second anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate, within existing resources, the efforts of the United Nations system and other relevant actors on the implementation of the Decade;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, while implementing specific Chernobyl-related programmes and projects;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to continue his work in organizing, in collaboration with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, a further study of the health, environmental and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

consistent with the recommendations of the Chernobyl Forum, and to improve the provision of information to local populations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of all aspects of the present resolution.

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 71 (d)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Japan, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine: draft resolution

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Albania, Argentina, Austria, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Honduras, India, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Philippines, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 76
Report of the International Criminal Court

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia: draft resolution

Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/15 of 20 November 2006, and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[1] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute, the tenth anniversary of which will be marked on 17 July 2008,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

07-60091 (E) 161107

Convinced that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses,

Noting with satisfaction the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its analyses, investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remains essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court ("Relationship Agreement"),[2]

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[3] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the Court and the United Nations, which could include the facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Recognizing the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, establish the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights and achieve sustainable peace, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Expressing its appreciation to the International Criminal Court for providing assistance to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2006-2007;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[1] in the past year, and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that have become parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[5] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;

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[2] See A/58/874 and Add.1.

[3] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[4] A/62/314.

[5] *Official Records of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, First session, New York, 3-10 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.V.2 and corrigendum), part II.E.

4. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

5. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

6. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

7. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, a State which is not a party to the Statute may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to specific crimes that are mentioned in paragraph 2 of that article;

8. *Encourages* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of the Relationship Agreement, which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of that Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

10. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[6] in which the Secretary-General states that he will continue the policy of assisting and supporting the International Criminal Court in its endeavours, in all respect for the independent character of the Court;

11. *Notes* the fact that the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters is now fully operational, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

12. *Encourages* States to contribute to the Trust Fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

13. *Notes* the work of the Special Working Group on the Crime of Aggression, which is open to all States on an equal footing, and encourages all States to consider participating actively in the Working Group with a view to

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/62/1).

elaborating proposals for a provision on the crime of aggression, in accordance with article 123 of the Rome Statute;

14. *Takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute at its fourth session, while recalling that according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the International Criminal Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its sixth session in New York, looks forward to the sixth session of the Assembly of States Parties, which is to be held in New York from 30 November to 14 December 2007, as well as to the resumed sixth session, which is to be held in New York from 2 to 6 June 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

15. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in those Assemblies of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

16. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2007-2008, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

United Nations A/62/L.13/Add.1

General Assembly

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26 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 76
Report of the International Criminal Court

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia: draft resolution

Report of the International Criminal Court

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Afghanistan, Chad, Chile, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Montenegro and Saint Kitts and Nevis

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United Nations A/62/L.14

General Assembly

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19 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 163
Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/84 of 9 December 2003, in which it granted the Eurasian Economic Community observer status in the General Assembly,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the fact that the membership of the Eurasian Economic Community includes countries with economies in transition, and recalling in this regard its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and whose efforts include assisting their members in fully integrating into the world economy,

Noting that the Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community reaffirms the commitment of the member States of the Community to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and also to the generally accepted principles and norms of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

07-60361 (E) 191107

1. *Takes note of* the activities of the Eurasian Economic Community in support of United Nations goals through strengthening regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development, the establishment of a customs union, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finance, communications, education, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection and natural disaster risk reduction;

2. *Notes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to conduct to this end regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Eurasian Economic Community, within existing resources, using for this purpose the relevant inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system as well as international financial institutions to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Eurasian Economic Community for the purpose of undertaking joint implementation of programmes to achieve their goals;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community".

United Nations A/62/L.15

General Assembly

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19 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 48
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

World Day of Social Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[2] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

07-60442 (E) 201107

Recalling the commitment to promote national and global economic systems based on the principles of justice, equity, democracy, participation, transparency, accountability and inclusion,

Reaffirming the commitment made in the World Summit Outcome to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, as a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of the efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,[3]

1. *Recognizes* that social development and social justice are indispensable for the achievement and maintenance of peace and security within and among nations and that, in turn, social development and social justice cannot be attained in the absence of peace and security or in the absence of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Also recognizes* that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice;

3. *Further recognizes* that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy and the development and improvement of living standards around the world, while at the same time there remain serious challenges, including serious financial crises, insecurity, poverty, exclusion and inequality within and among societies and considerable obstacles to further integration and full participation in the global economy for developing countries as well as some countries with economies in transition;

4. *Recognizes* the need to consolidate further the efforts of the international community in poverty eradication and in promoting full employment and decent work, gender equality and access to social well-being and justice for all;

5. *Decides* to declare that starting from the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, 20 February will be celebrated annually as the World Day of Social Justice;

6. *Invites* all Member States to devote this special day to the promotion, at the national level, of concrete activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.

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[3] Resolution 60/1, para. 47.

United Nations A/62/L.15/Add.1

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 48
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

World Day of Social Justice

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Brazil, Cyprus, Montenegro, Oman, Philippines and Thailand

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General Assembly

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21 November 2007

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 13
The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict

Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing also the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,

Noting the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing, therefore, that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,

Recalling that the elimination of illicit diamonds from legitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley Process,

Bearing in mind the positive benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need for continued international action to prevent the problem of conflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in

07-60953 (E) 231107

legitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of many of the producing, exporting and importing States, especially developing States,

Noting that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

Recalling the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1459 (2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[1] as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming the important contribution of the Kimberley Process which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,

Acknowledging that lessons learned from the Kimberley Process are useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in its consideration of the countries included in its agenda, as appropriate,

Noting with satisfaction that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

Recalling its resolutions 55/56 of 1 December 2000, 56/263 of 13 March 2002, 57/302 of 15 April 2003, 58/290 of 14 April 2004, 59/144 of 15 December 2004, 60/182 of 20 December 2005 and 61/28 of 4 December 2006, in which it called for the development and implementation as well as a periodic review of proposals for a simple, effective and pragmatic international certification scheme for rough diamonds,

Welcoming in this regard the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

Welcoming also the decision of forty-eight Kimberley Process participants, representing seventy-four countries, including the twenty-seven members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

Welcoming further the desire of the Kimberley Process to systematize the current rules and procedures and the subsequent development of new rules and procedural norms regulating the activity of its working bodies, participants and observers,

Welcoming the successful consensual outcomes of the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process hosted by the European Commission in Brussels from 5 to 8 November 2007,

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[1] See A/57/489.

Welcoming also the important contributions made and that continue to be made by civil society and the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council which represents all aspects of the diamond industry, to assist international efforts to stop the trade in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming further the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation contributes, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds,[2] to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

Noting in this regard the Declaration endorsed by the plenary meeting held in Brussels from 5 to 8 November 2007 on internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres,

Noting with appreciation that the Kimberley Process has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis, involving concerned stakeholders, including producing, exporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil society, as well as applicant States and international organizations,

Recognizing that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

Recognizing also that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

1. *Reaffirms its strong and continuing support* for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[1] and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. *Recognizes* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts, and calls for the full implementation of existing Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. *Also recognizes* the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

4. *Notes* the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from

[2] Ibid., annex 2.

1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006,[3] and the decision of the General Council of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2012;[4]

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to resolution 61/28,[5] and congratulates the participating Governments, the regional economic integration organization, the diamond industry and civil society organizations involved in the Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and recognizes, in particular, the progress made by Kimberley Process working groups, participants and observers during 2007 in fulfilling the objectives set by the Chair to strengthen implementation of the peer review system, increase the transparency and accuracy of statistics, promote research into the traceability of diamonds, promote inclusiveness by broadening the level of involvement by both Governments and civil society in the Scheme, foster a sense of ownership by participants, improve information and communication flows and enhance the capacity of the Scheme to respond to emerging challenges;

6. *Stresses* that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential, and encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings;

7. *Welcomes* the admission in 2007 of Liberia, Turkey and the Congo, and recognizes the increased involvement of civil society organizations, in particular those from producer countries, in the Kimberley Process;

8. *Welcomes* the initiative announced in Brussels to address the issue of rough diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire by engaging all relevant stakeholders, including Côte d'Ivoire, to enhance the control and monitoring of the trade in rough diamonds in their territories, enhancing regional cooperation to strengthen compliance with the Kimberley Process, and supporting applicant countries in the West Africa region in their efforts to join the Kimberley Process as called for in Security Council resolution 1643 (2005) of 15 December 2005;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Kimberley Process with the United Nations on the issue of diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire, including by assessing the volume of rough diamonds produced in and exported from Côte d'Ivoire as requested by Security Council resolution 1643 (2005), by sharing statistical data and other information with the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire, and by taking action in line with paragraph 9 of resolution 61/28, in particular on the issues raised in reports of the Group of Experts,[6] calls for the full implementation of the resolution on the subject of illicit diamond production in Côte d'Ivoire adopted by the plenary meeting of the Process held in Moscow from 15 to 17 November 2005, and encourages continued cooperation between the Kimberley Process and the United Nations in tackling this issue;

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[3] World Trade Organization, document WT/L/518. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[4] World Trade Organization, document G/C/W/559/Rev.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[5] A/62/543, annex, and Add.1.

[6] See S/2006/735 and S/2007/611.

10. *Welcomes* the considerable efforts of Ghana in 2007 to enhance the credibility of its internal controls by monitoring exports, licensing miners and producing accurate diamond production data, all with assistance from the European Commission, South Africa, the United States of America and the World Diamond Council, by way of follow-up to the 2006 Gaborone administrative decision on Ghana, and notes the decision adopted by the plenary meeting of the Process held in Brussels from 5 to 8 November 2007 to introduce a risk-based approach to the monitoring of Ghana's rough diamond exports;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* that in line with paragraph 7 of its resolution 60/182 and paragraph 7 of its resolution 61/28, the preliminary development of footprints (size-frequency distribution diagrams) that characterize diamond production from Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana has been undertaken, and encourages expeditious commencement of further work to develop similar footprints for other diamond producers, while thanking the European Commission for hosting a workshop on traceability techniques to identify the origin of diamonds through optical, physical and chemical analysis, and encouraging all participants to support further efforts to place diamond identification techniques on a sound scientific basis;

12. *Welcomes* the Declaration endorsed by the plenary meeting held in Brussels from 5 to 8 November 2007 on internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres and encourages all such centres to carry out effective enforcement measures as part of their internal controls to ensure adequate government oversight over the trade in rough diamonds;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Working Group of the Kimberley Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers, under the leadership of Angola, to analyse internal controls and the challenges faced by each country with respect to its artisanal alluvial diamond production, and plans to spread best practices and improve community involvement through a programme of field visits;

14. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the South American subgroup of Artisanal Alluvial Producers, and its intention to meet to discuss regional cooperation on the challenges faced in controlling diamond production and trade, and also welcomes the invitation extended by Venezuela for a visit led by the Kimberley Process Chair to be held by the first quarter of 2008;

15. *Warmly welcomes* the admission of Liberia as a participant in the Kimberley Process in May 2007, following three separate Kimberley Process expert missions to advise and assess its system for controlling diamonds, notes with appreciation the considerable support and technical assistance provided by the Kimberley Process community prior to the decision by the Security Council to lift diamond sanctions, and continues to encourage all those in a position to do so to assist Liberia with implementation of Kimberley Process standards;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the considerable progress made in carrying out the recommendations arising out of the three-year review of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme adopted by the plenary meeting of the Process held in Gaborone from 6 to 9 November 2006 and notes that they should contribute to the strengthening and consolidation of the Process;

17. *Recognizes* that the peer review mechanism and the collection and submission of statistical data are critical monitoring tools, essential for effective implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and in this respect:

(a) Notes with satisfaction that virtually all Kimberley Process participants, as well as several applicants, have received peer review visits, and that several countries and a regional economic integration organization have already invited a second review visit, and calls upon other participants to invite further visits;

(b) Welcomes the strengthening of the peer review mechanism by the adoption of a revised administrative decision on peer review;

(c) Notes with satisfaction the publication of Kimberley Process trade and production data, welcomes the progress made towards the collection and submission of complete and accurate statistical reports on the production of and trade in rough diamonds, and encourages all of the Process participants to continue to enhance the quality of data, and to respond promptly to Process analyses of these data;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the systematization of the work of the Kimberley Process with respect to its continuing to develop transparent and uniform rules and procedures and to introduce a mechanism for consultation and coordination in the Process;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance and capacity-building efforts extended by various donors, and encourages other donors to provide financial and technical expertise to Kimberley Process participants to develop tighter monitoring and control measures;

20. *Acknowledges with great appreciation* the important contribution that the European Community, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2007, has made to the efforts to curb the trade in conflict diamonds, and welcomes the selection of India as Chair and Namibia as Vice-Chair of the Process for 2008;

21. *Requests* the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit a report on the implementation of the Process to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

United Nations A/62/L.17

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 49
Culture of peace

Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Philippines and Suriname: draft resolution

Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Recalling its resolutions 56/6 of 9 November 2001, on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, concerning the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, 58/128 of 19 December 2003, on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, 59/23 of 11 November 2004, on the promotion of interreligious dialogue, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010, 59/199 of 20 December 2004, on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, and 60/167 of 16 December 2005 on human rights and cultural diversity,

Taking into account its resolution 61/221 of 20 December 2006, on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account of the draft resolution contained in document 34C/82, the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-fourth session, held in Paris from 16 October to 3 November 2007, recommending the proclamation of 2010 by the General Assembly as the international year for the rapprochement of cultures,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

07-61122 (E) 261107

Welcoming the valuable contribution of various initiatives at the national, regional and international levels to enhancing dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations, which are all mutually inclusive, reinforcing and interrelated,

Taking note of the statements and recommendations made during the high-level dialogue on interreligious and intercultural cooperation for the promotion of tolerance, understanding and universal respect on matters of freedom of religion or belief and cultural diversity, held on 4 and 5 October 2007, including the proposal to establish a consultative council of religions under the aegis of the United Nations with the aim of encouraging interreligious dialogue for peace,

Affirming the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders in the interreligious, intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue at the national, regional and international levels,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace,

1. *Affirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on interreligious dialogue in the context of its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, as well as activities related to a culture of peace, and welcomes its focus on concrete action at the global, regional and subregional levels and its flagship project on the promotion of interfaith dialogue;

3. *Welcomes* the designation, in paragraph 27 of the report of the Secretary-General[2] of the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as the focal unit in the Secretariat on interreligious, intercultural and inter-civilizational matters, in paragraph 27 of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

4. *Encourages* Governments to consider the proposals contained in the statements made during the high-level dialogue on interreligious and intercultural cooperation for the promotion of tolerance, understanding and universal respect on matters of freedom of religion or belief and cultural diversity, particularly initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation at the grass-roots level;

5. *Encourages* the promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but that these shall be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals;

[2] A/62/337.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the various recommendations made during the high-level dialogue, including the establishment of a consultative council of religions to serve as a forum for interreligious dialogue for peace, and to submit proposals on the modalities for the possible council, and in this regard, calls upon States, relevant international organizations and civil society organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on this subject;

7. *Decides* to hold an annual high-level dialogue on interreligious and intercultural cooperation for the promotion of peace, tolerance, understanding, universal respect on matters of freedom of religion or belief, cultural diversity, development and human dignity, and requests the President of the General Assembly to convene interactive hearings with civil society to engage all stakeholders in the process;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit during the current session a framework plan of activities for 2010, to be declared by the General Assembly as the International Year of Dialogue among Religions and Rapprochement of Cultures;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and Palestine: draft resolution

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted by the General Assembly at its emergency special sessions and resolution 61/22 of 1 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[2] endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[3]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/62/35).

[2] S/2003/529, annex.

[3] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

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Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[4] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[1] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the Middle East peace process and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

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[4] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

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Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 61/23 of 1 December 2006,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 61/23;

2. *Considers* that, by assisting the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the monitoring of developments relevant to the question of Palestine, the organization of international meetings and

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/62/35).

conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community; liaison and cooperation with civil society, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and the conduct of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks;

6. *Requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity.

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Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 61/24 of 1 December 2006,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[2]

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[3]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/62/35).
[2] S/2003/529, annex.
[3] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

07-61370 (E) 271107

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[4]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 61/24;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2008-2009, in particular:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(b) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the relevant recent developments in that regard, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(c) To expand its collection of audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly building;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists.

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[4] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

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Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been sixty years since the adoption of partition resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and forty years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 61/25 of 1 December 2006,[1]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law,

[1] A/62/344-S/2007/553.

07-61352 (E) 271107

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[2] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming also the illegality of all Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including measures such as the so-called E-1 plan and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and the territory as a whole,

Reaffirming further that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime, are contrary to international law,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, via imposition of crossing closures, hundreds of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people and the compounding of the prevailing humanitarian crisis,

Concerned about the continued establishment of Israeli checkpoints in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the transformation of several of these checkpoints into structures akin to permanent border crossings inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are severely impairing the territorial contiguity of the Territory and severely undermining all efforts and aid aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[3] and the agreements concluded between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

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[2] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[3] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[4] and stressing the urgent need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Welcoming the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[5]

Noting the contribution to the peace process of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including in the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

Welcoming the convening of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee meeting, under the chairmanship of Norway, on 24 September 2007 [and the December meeting planned for Paris] to provide assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial, socio-economic and humanitarian crisis they are facing, and acknowledging the contribution of the Temporary International Mechanism in this regard,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, and emphasizing the need to preserve the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure,

Expressing its concern over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000, as a result of ongoing Israeli military actions and excessive use of force, including the large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property and infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians, and the serious deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Expressing its grave concern about the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Expressing concern over the unlawful takeover of Palestinian Authority institutions in the Gaza Strip on June 2007, and calling for the restoration of the situation to that which existed prior to June 2007 to allow for the resumption of a dialogue for the restoration of Palestinian national unity,

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[4] S/2003/529, annex.

[5] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to support both parties in revitalizing the peace process towards the resumption and acceleration of direct negotiations between the parties for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the Arab Peace Initiative and the road map,

Taking note in this regard of the initiative by the President of the United States of America and welcoming the convening of a substantive and serious international meeting this year aimed at achieving a just and comprehensive solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole, ending the occupation and achieving a just and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by the resumption of negotiations on all tracks, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the present resolution,

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Taking note of the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[6]

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end;

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, which began in Madrid, and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts of the Quartet and of the League of Arab States;

3. *Welcomes* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002[5] and the follow-up steps being undertaken by the Ministerial Committee formed after reaffirmation of the Initiative by the Riyadh Summit in March 2007;

4. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation, to reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000 and to immediately resume direct peace negotiations towards the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, especially from the Security Council, the Arab Peace Initiative, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the road map;[4]

5. *Calls upon* the Quartet, together with the international community, to take immediate steps, including confidence-building measures between the parties, aimed at halting the deterioration of the situation, promoting stability and restarting the peace process;

6. *Stresses* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres, including, inter alia, by removal of all Israeli checkpoints erected within the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and the need for respect and

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[6] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161.

preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

8. *Notes* the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the dismantlement of the settlements therein and the need for the parties to resolve all remaining issues in the Gaza Strip;

9. *Stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, in specific, for Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its closure of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip, which has devastated socio-economic conditions, and to allow for the unimpeded movement and access of humanitarian personnel and supplies;

10. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character and status of the Territory, including via the de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations;

11. *Demands accordingly* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion[2] and as demanded in resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

12. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

13. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

14. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

15. *Also stresses* the need for justly resolving the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

16. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period to help to alleviate the humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the

Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the rebuilding, restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

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The situation in the Middle East

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Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all subsequent resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[1] and recalling resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern in particular about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on access

[1] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

to and residence in East Jerusalem, and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which is having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of those States that had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw their missions from the city, in compliance with Security Council resolution 478 (1980);

3. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[2] A/62/327.

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The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[2] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

[1] A/62/327.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[3] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[2] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[3] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).